

Applic. No. 10/695,365

Amdt. dated June 22, 2005

Reply to Office action of February 22, 2005

Remarks/Arguments:

Reconsideration of the application is requested.

Claims 1-10 and 12-14 remain in the application. Claims 1, 12, 13, and 14 have been amended. Claim 11 is cancelled herewith.

In the second paragraph on page 2 of the above-identified Office action, claims 1, 2, 5-8, 12, 13, and 14 have been rejected as being fully anticipated by Vrotacoe et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,535,674) (hereinafter "Vrotacoe") under 35 U.S.C. § 102.

The rejection has been noted and the claims have been amended in an effort to even more clearly define the invention of the instant application. The claims are patentable for the reasons set forth below. Support for the changes is found in claim 11 and on page 10, lines 23-26 of the specification.

Before discussing the prior art in detail, it is believed that a brief review of the invention as claimed, would be helpful.

Claims 1, 12, 13, and 14 call for, *inter alia*:

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at least one rotary lead-through fluidically communicating with and through which a temperature-controlled liquid flows into the internal pipe for achieving a defined temperature of the printing plate.

It is noted that the corporate assignee of the Vrotacoe reference is also an assignee of the instant application. Therefore, applicant is very familiar with the Vrotacoe reference.

The Vrotacoe reference discloses that the fluid reduces the temperature level of the cylinder body (column 4, lines 41-60). Therefore, the temperature level of the fluid must be lower than that of the cylinder. Vrotacoe discloses that the temperature differences on the cylinder body's circumference shall be eased by the use of the fluid (column 5, lines 22-24). Vrotacoe is silent about controlling the temperature of the fluid for reaching a defined temperature. This is the case because of the fact that Vrotacoe pertains to a cylinder in an offset printing press. Vrotacoe discloses preventing the bending of the cylinder as an effect of an uneven temperature distribution. Vrotacoe explicitly discloses that the absolute temperature level is of less importance than an uneven temperature profile around the printing unit cylinder circumference (column 1, lines 58-61). Unlike Vrotacoe, the

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present invention discloses an exposing device for which the absolute temperature is critical (page 6, line 15 to page 7, line 18). In order to achieve the defined temperature it must be possible to heat up the temperature level of the fluid, to a temperature that is even higher than the temperature level of the drum.

As can be seen from the above-given comments, the reference does not show at least one rotary lead-through fluidically communicating with and through which a temperature-controlled liquid flows into the internal pipe for achieving a defined temperature of the printing plate, as recited in claims 1, 12, 13, and 14 of the instant application. In fact Vrotacoe teaches away from the claims of the instant application by disclosing that the temperature level of the cylinder body shall only be lowered (column 4, lines 54-58).

Furthermore, Vrotacoe discloses a gas tube (22) for leading pressurized air to grooves (15) (column 4, lines 17-22). Fluid filled into the tube (22) would be led to the grooves (15) and would leave the cylinder. Vrotacoe does not disclose that one rotary lead-through fluidically communicates with and through which a temperature-controlled liquid flows into an internal pipe. This is contrary to the invention of the instant application as claimed, in which one rotary lead-

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through fluidically communicates with and through which a temperature-controlled liquid flows into the internal pipe.

Since claim 1 is believed to be allowable, dependent claims 2 and 5-8 are believed to be allowable as well.

Claims 12 and 13 also call for, *inter alia*:

an exposure head for exposing the printing plate.

The reference does not disclose an exposure head for exposing the printing plate, as recited in claims 12 and 13 of the instant application. The Vrotacoe reference discloses a printing unit cylinder in an offset printing press, which can be used either as a printing cylinder or as a transfer cylinder (column 2, lines 61-67). No recording material, such as a printing plate, is exposed (imaged) in the printing press. Accordingly, Vrotacoe does not disclose an exposure head for exposing a printing plate. This is contrary to the invention of the instant application as claimed, which recites an exposure head for exposing the printing plate.

The following remarks pertain to the Examiner's response to arguments on pages 6-7 of the Office action. The Examiner

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stated that applicant has not claimed the printing plate. The claims have been amended to recite a printing plate.

The Examiner did not comment on the remarks pertaining to claim 5. Therefore, the following remarks pertaining to claim 5 are given again below.

With respect to claim 5, Vrotacoe does not disclose a rotary lead-through for the liquid at a first end of the cylinder and a further rotary lead-through at a second end. What is disclosed and shown in Fig. 2 of Vrotacoe is an inlet (7) for gas and a bore (13) for applying gas pressure to the printing unit cylinder for blanket removal or for plate removal (column 3, lines 40-65). In Vrotacoe the gas pressure system for plate removal is completely independent from the liquid system for heat distribution.

In the third paragraph on page 4 of the Office action, claims 3, 4, and 9 have been rejected as being obvious over Vrotacoe (U.S. Patent No. 5,535,674) in view of Feller et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,065,402) (hereinafter "Feller") under 35 U.S.C. § 103. Feller does not make up for the deficiencies of Vrotacoe. Since claim 1 is believed to be allowable, dependent claims 3, 4, and 9 are believed to be allowable as well.

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Even though claims 3, 4, and 9 are believed to be allowable, the following remarks pertain to claims 3, 4, and 9. With respect to claims 3, 4, and 9, Feller does not teach a thermally conductive material and does not explain how the internal pipe and the webs are fabricated. Feller is silent about extruded parts.

In the third paragraph on page 5 of the Office action, claim 10 has been rejected as being obvious over Vrotacoe (U.S. Patent No. 5,535,674) in view of Feller (U.S. Patent No. 6,065,402) and further in view of Marmin et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,967,036) (hereinafter "Marmin") under 35 U.S.C. § 103. Marmin does not make up for the deficiencies of Vrotacoe and Feller. Since claim 1 is believed to be allowable, dependent claim 10 is believed to be allowable as well.

In the last paragraph on page 5 of the Office action, claim 11 has been rejected as being obvious over Vrotacoe (U.S. Patent No. 5,535,674) in view of Kurosawa (U.S. Patent No. 5,074,213) under 35 U.S.C. § 103. Claim 11 has been cancelled.

It is also noted that Vrotacoe, Feller, and Kurosawa disclose offset printing machines and are thus silent about exposure devices. The parameters for offset printing devices and

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exposure drums are quite different. In an offset printing device, a heating of the cylinders must be prevented during one printjob. To the contrary in an exposing device, a drifting of the temperature in any direction must be prevented during the exposure of the printing plates representing different color separations of one image, even if the exposures take place on different days.

It is accordingly believed to be clear that none of the references, whether taken alone or in any combination, either show or suggest the features of claims 1, 12, 13, or 14. Claims 1, 12, 13, and 14 are, therefore, believed to be patentable over the art and since all of the dependent claims are ultimately dependent on claim 1, they are believed to be patentable as well.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-10 and 12-14 are solicited.

In the event the Examiner should still find any of the claims to be unpatentable, counsel respectfully requests a telephone call so that, if possible, patentable language can be worked out.

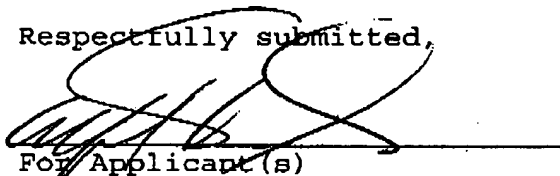
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Petition for extension is herewith made. The extension fee for response within a period of one month pursuant to Section 1.136(a) in the amount of \$120 in accordance with Section 1.17 is enclosed herewith.

If an extension of time for this paper is required, petition for extension is herewith made.

Please charge any other fees which might be due with respect to Sections 1.16 and 1.17 to the Deposit Account of Lerner & Greenberg P.A., No. 12-1099.

Respectfully submitted,



For Applicant(s)

Alfred K. Dassler  
52,794

AKD:cgm

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Lerner and Greenberg, P.A.  
Post Office Box 2480  
Hollywood, FL 33022-2480  
Tel: (954) 925-1100  
Fax: (954) 925-1101